

## QUICK WIT SAVES LIFE.

## FIGHT IN LOCKED ROOM.

## Telegraph Key Brings Rescue to Signal Man-Fighting Maniac.

(By Telegram to The Tribune.)  
Boravton, Conn., Aug. 22.—Charles Lynch, signal man of the New-York, New-Haven and Connecticut Railroad here, was attacked this afternoon by a man named Richard Kennedy, who sprang on him in the tower. Had Lynch not been able to reach the telegraph keys Kennedy would have torn him limb from limb. Kennedy forced open the tower door, then swung it back again, bolted it tight, then turned the lock and threw away the key. It was all the work of a moment. Then he sprang on the signal man and, with the strength of a maniac, told him to the floor.

"I'm killing the blue devils!" he yelled.  
"I'm your friend. I can save you from the blue devils! I know how! Listen to the ticking. Isn't it great? That'll cure you." Lynch whispered quickly. The telegraph keys answered with a rapid click. The maniac fell on his knees. Lynch jumped to his feet.  
"Listen!" he said, then he flashed a message along the wire to the next tower telling of his great danger.  
"Stop the first freight, but stand by your post," was the reply flashed back. Lynch was sore and nervous. He humored the madman, while he threw out the stop signal for the next freight. This was due any moment. The maniac became impatient and broke out again into furious wrath. The next moment the freight was at the tower. The crew jumped off quickly, and, breaking open the door, overpowered Kennedy. Lynch had been struck several powerful blows and sank to the floor unconscious as the train crew entered.

## SHOT AT GEN. BALDWIN.

## Soldier Accused of Attempted Murder at Fort Logan.

(By Telegram to The Tribune.)  
Denver, Aug. 22.—While watching target practice at Fort Logan before he left that post to assume his new command in Oklahoma, a bullet whizzed so close to the head of General Frank D. Baldwin that he said he fancied he could smell it, and the odor was not unlike that of a hard-boiled egg. It is charged the bullet was fired in a deliberate attempt to murder the commanding officer. The incident was passed over lightly so far as the enlisted men were concerned, but it was taken seriously by the officers and a report was made to the War Department.  
General Baldwin is said to have laughed as he saw the steel tipped bullet from a Krag-Jorgensen rifle bury itself in a water tank in the shade of which he was standing, directing the movements of the sham skirmish. "A miss is as good as a mile," the general is said to have exclaimed. The other officers were not inclined to take the same casual view of the incident, and a searching investigation was made in the hope of discovering the man who substituted a loaded shell for a blank one and fired at the commanding officer. The investigation proved futile.

## THREATS BY WHITECAPS.

## Witnesses Against Them in Mississippi Complain to Authorities.

(By Telegram to The Tribune.)  
Mobile, Aug. 22.—Complaints have been made to the federal authorities of Mississippi by witnesses who testified in the White-caps cases in Franklin County, that State, at the last term of the federal court, that some of the men indicted for alleged White-caps have been making threats against the witnesses, to intimidate and prevent them from appearing when the cases come up in November. These complaints have been forwarded to the federal District Attorney.  
Three hundred indictments were found by the last federal grand jury here against citizens of Franklin County, Miss., on the testimony of witnesses and confessions obtained by Hoyt, a detective, who was employed by Governor Vardaman, to investigate the White-caps. All the cases were set for trial at the coming term of the court, and the accused men are all out on bonds.  
Recently petitions were put in circulation in Franklin, addressed to Judge Niles, and containing charges against certain of the White-caps, and asking that the cases be dismissed. Many of the more prominent of the men indicted allege that the whole affair was instigated for local political purposes, and that charges and prejudice are at the bottom of the charges.

## BIG RAILROAD CONTRACT.

## Pittsburg Firm to Build Part of Gould Line for \$15,000,000.

(By Telegram to The Tribune.)  
Pittsburg, Aug. 22.—The contract has been awarded to William Kenefick & Co., a Pittsburg railroad contracting firm, for the construction of a part of the Western Pacific Railroad being built by George J. Gould. The contract price is about \$15,000,000, and this is said to be the largest railroad contract ever awarded to one firm.  
Pittsburg engineers will be employed to outline the work, and the road will be completed in three or four years. When the new road is completed and the proposed line from Pittsburg to Belington, W. Va., is built, Mr. Gould will have completed a transcontinental line.  
The component parts of the gigantic system will be the Western Pacific, the Denver and Rio Grande, the Missouri Pacific, the Wabash, the proposed line from Pittsburg to Belington, the West Virginia Central and Pittsburg and the Western Maryland.  
The new line will run between Salt Lake City and San Francisco.

## MAY IMPEACH JOHNSON.

## Cleveland Republicans Hope to Oust Their Mayor.

(By Telegram to The Tribune.)  
Cleveland, Aug. 22.—As a culmination of a bitter fight between the city council and Mayor Johnson, the Republicans in that body may try to impeach the Chief Executive. Councilman Wilkes said to-night that he would ask the council to investigate the Mayor's record.  
Recently property owners, in a suit to prevent the construction of the proposed belt line railroad, charged that corruption in the city council was responsible for the passage of the ordinance granting the franchises. As the Mayor signed the ordinance the Republican councilmen, who control the body, are contemplating action against the Mayor, leading the action on the charges of the plaintiffs in the belt line suit.

## INTERNATIONAL AUTOMOBILE CONTESTS.

On Cape May Beach, Friday and Saturday mornings, for world's mile and kilo records. Take Pennsylvania Railroad—Advt.

## GOVERNOR A. J. MONTAGUE AND SENATOR THOMAS STAPLES MARTIN.

Rival Democratic candidates for the Virginia Senatorship.



## SENATOR MARTIN WINS.

## Carries Democratic Primaries in Virginia—Mr. Swanson for Governor.

(By Telegram to The Tribune.)  
Richmond, Va., Aug. 22.—For the first time in the history of Virginia the people to-day nominated their United States Senator at the primaries, and their choice fell on Thomas S. Martin, who has represented them for ten years. The vote was one of instruction to the representatives of the people in the legislature, for it will still be necessary, under the Constitution of the United States, for the legislature to elect the Senator. In this case it will simply have to ratify the will of the people.

Senator Martin's opponent was Governor A. J. Montague and the two have been stumping the State for nearly two months. The Governor has severely attacked Senator Martin's record, and the latter has not been slow to defend himself. The result has been one of the bitterest campaigns ever waged in Virginia, and in today's primary, ex-Congressman Claude A. Swanson, who was defeated four years ago, was nominated for Governor and J. Taylor Ellyson was nominated for Lieutenant Governor.

## FERRY CROWD IN PANIC.

## Hackensack Nearly Drifts on Rock in Little Hell Gate.

On her 7 o'clock trip from the slip at East 99th-st. to North Beach last night the ferryboat Hackensack got adrift in midstream and drifted perilously near to Flood Rock, in Little Hell Gate, off 96th-st.  
With a whirling of the machinery, which alarmed the hundred passengers aboard, the piston rod broke. Immediately Captain Marcus, who had been informed of the accident by one of the firemen, went about the boat attempting to quiet the hysterical women and children.

In answer to signals of distress the fireboat Zophar Mills put out from her slip at 96th-st. The Health Department boat Cyrus Edison drew alongside, and, with the assistance of the fireboat, towed the disabled ferryboat, against the strong ebb tide, back to her slip.  
All information was refused at the boat, and the officers of the company would not talk about the accident. The Hackensack is an old boat, and one of the smallest of the North Beach line. She piled on the Hoboken ferry many years ago.

## PANIC ON ROOF GARDEN.

## Lighted Cigar Sets Fire to Awning at Hotel Navarre.

A lighted end of a cigar thrown against a canvas awning on the roof garden of the Hotel Navarre last night caused a lively blaze for a few moments. Firemen from an engine house in West 27th-st. hurried up to the garden and put the flames out with their hands. One woman, whose name could not be learned, was burned about the neck, but not enough to prevent her from returning to the scene after the flames were quenched.

There were about fifty people on the roof garden when the fire broke out, and all hurried to the nearest elevator. They went back as quickly when the fire was out.

## BONAPARTE HITS HARD.

## Says Disfranchising Amendment Is Meant to Hoodwink Voters.

(By Telegram to The Tribune.)  
Baltimore, Aug. 22.—Charles J. Bonaparte, Secretary of the Navy, made a vigorous attack upon the Democratic disfranchising constitutional amendment in an address to the Republican State Editorial Association at a dinner here to-day. The amendment is the chief issue of the campaign, and Mr. Bonaparte said:

"I can hardly treat as argument, even as sophistry, the bald and impudent falsehoods which are published for the most part, I must say, anonymously, in support of the amendment. What can you say to a man who tells you it will be a safeguard against an ignorant suffrage? A would-be voter need not know how to read a section of the Constitution, or to read anything. He need not even know his letters to be registered. On the other hand, the successors of Chief Justice McSherry, or of President Remsen, or Cardinal Gibbons or of Bishop Paré—of anybody you please, in fact—might be readily disfranchised. All would depend on whether he explained some provision of the Constitution, selected at random, as it was understood or misunderstood by two out of ten fourth rate politicians, in nine cases out of ten absolutely incompetent to determine its meaning intelligently.

This is but one of the many gross and shameless perversions of truth used to hoodwink the voters of Maryland into a permanent and hopeless abdication of self-government.

## TO MARRY FIFTEEN-YEAR-OLD GIRL.

## New-York State Clergyman Takes Out License in Philadelphia.

(By Telegram to The Tribune.)  
Philadelphia, Aug. 22.—The Rev. Charles T. Pfeiffer, of Cavalry Protestant Episcopal Church, Calro, N. Y., to-day got a license to marry Alice A. Hall, fifteen years old, of No. 704 East Chelten-ave., Germantown. The marriage will take place at the Church of the Annunciation to-morrow morning.  
Only members of the two families will be present. Miss Hall is a daughter of J. Burdick Hall, a stationery dealer.  
"There is no romance in the affair at all," said Mr. Pfeiffer to-day. "I have known Miss Hall since she was a small child. It is simply an every day affair. Nothing out of the ordinary, I assure you." He is thirty years old.

\$9.00 NIAGARA FALLS—TORONTO \$10.15  
Sept. 2, Erie Railroad. Information, 26 119 Broadway, N. Y. 32 Fulton St., Brooklyn—Advt.

## LION FREE IN BIG CROWD.

## FIVE THOUSAND IN PANIC.

## Families Separated, and Many Crushed in Wild Flight.

Terrified by a lion, a crowd of five thousand men, women and children was in a panic last night at Electric Park in South Orange-ave. in the Vailsburg section of Newark. No one has been reported seriously hurt, although it took hours to gather families together after the panic. Many in the crowd lost clothing, handbags and watches in the wild scramble from the lion.

One of the attractions is a man named Dillon, who rides a bicycle in a bowl shaped contrivance of wooden slats set above a lions' cage. In the cage were two beautiful African lions. The top of the cage is open.

The wheel slipped last night and dropped into the cage. Dillon caught the slats with one hand and drew himself up out of harm's way, and was assisted over the rim of the bowl. His mishap and the minute or so it took to rescue him caused much excitement, and drew practically the whole crowd to the scene.

The trainer of the beasts, whose name is given as Carl, entered the cage to recover the bicycle. As he stepped into the cage the larger of the two animals sprang on him in an effort to get out of the cage. He had been badly frightened by the fall of the wheel. The other beast was lying whining in the far corner. The spring was unexpected and knocked Carl down, and as he fell his hand, which still rested on the door, swung it open, and the lion sprang through and onto the platform on which the cage rested. He stood there swinging his head about and looking for a means of escape.

The crowd broke instantly and ran. Men deserted wives and children, and women left their children and ran for their lives. Many fell and were trampled upon, but sprang up again and fled on. The gates—fortunately, there were many—were whirled away by the rush, and the big park was emptied in a minute or less. Men, women and children went racing down the streets, or broke frantically into nearby houses, screaming and hysterical. Many did not stop running until they dropped panting from exhaustion a mile or more from the park. One man, it is said, ran to East Orange, two miles or more away, and when he finally collapsed begged those about him to drive off the beasts.

Meanwhile, with the park clear, the lion leaped down from the platform and took refuge under a building.  
Park employees and a few men who retained or regained their senses and courage, set about capturing him. Others set about gathering up the discarded clothing and belongings of the crowd that fled. The lion was driven from his refuge but gained another between two buildings, where he was at a late hour. His cage had been drawn to one opening and efforts were being made to coax him into it.

The murderer after shooting Mrs. Mize fled into an alley between 58th and 59th sts. and disappeared in the darkness. He was seen by nobody except Mrs. Mize, Mrs. Wilson and Mrs. Martha Scanlon, a guest of the Del Prado Hotel, who, hearing the shot, looked hastily out of the window and saw the man running into the alley. She was not able to describe him, and Mrs. Wilson was so utterly prostrated that she could not give to the police any details of his appearance. A swarm of detectives and uniformed policemen were on the ground within a few minutes, but for the time being at least the murderer made good his escape without leaving a tangible clue.

The side of Mrs. Mize's white shirtwaist was scorched by the flash of the revolver, and it was the opinion of the police that the robber thought Mrs. Mize intended to hold him until he arrived, and shot her down to escape arrest. Mrs. Mize had been a guest at the Del Prado Hotel since July 25. Her husband died about a year ago in New-York, and since then she had been dividing her time between Chicago and New-York.

## RUN DOWN BY IMPORTER.

## Fatal Automobile Accident in Broadway, Brooklyn.

Frederick Kilpatrick, a musician, of No. 87 South 6th-st., Brooklyn, was run down and killed by a large touring car at Broadway and Roebeling-st., Williamsburg, early this morning. The car was in charge of the owner, Samuel McConnell, an importer, of No. 351 West 114th-st., Manhattan. He was held by the police on a charge of homicide.

McConnell, in company with his chauffeur, Thomas Garrett, and Leon Wormser, was returning from Coney Island. While approaching the north entrance of the Williamsburg Bridge, Kilpatrick started to cross the street. The machine was going at good speed, and McConnell says that he became confused and could not avoid hitting the man.

## CLEVELAND MAY RIVAL PARIS.

## City To Be Circled with Boulevards Costing More Than \$2,000,000.

(By Telegram to The Tribune.)  
Cleveland, Aug. 22.—To encircle the city of Cleveland with a succession of boulevards, twenty-six miles in length, at a cost of more than \$2,000,000, is the scheme which the Board of Public Service is slowly materializing.  
"It will take from three to four years to complete the chain," said a prominent man to-day, "but when it is finished no city in the world, not even Paris, will have as much right to be proud of its boulevards as we."

The boulevards which are to connect Woodland Hills, Ambler, Edgewater and Brookside parks are only the beginning of the vast municipal enterprise.

## MARK TWAIN GETS HIS BOOTS ON.

## Gout Eases Up and Humorist Starts for New-York.

(By Telegram to The Tribune.)  
Winsted, Conn., Aug. 22.—Samuel L. Clemens (Mark Twain) left Norfolk this evening for New-York City, his attack of the gout having eased up sufficiently to permit of making the journey.  
The humorist got his boots on to-day for the first time since he was taken ill, and appeared in the best of spirits. Mr. Clemens probably will return to Norfolk in September or October.

## CONTRACT FOR WEST SHORE SIGNED.

(By Telegram to The Tribune.)  
Cleveland, Aug. 22.—The Vanderbilt system has signed a contract for the electrical equipment of the West Shore road from Utica to Syracuse.

## BEATEN BY GIRL'S BROTHER.

(By Telegram to The Tribune.)  
Omaha, Neb., Aug. 22.—Charles B. Burt, a member of the firm of Mallory, King & Burt, mining promoters, No. 73 Wall-st., New-York, and a stockholder and director in the San Pedro Mining Company, now operating here, was badly beaten to-day by the brother of a well known young woman.

## ROMANCE SOON ENDED.

## Projected Tour of World Ends in a Freight Car.

(By Telegram to The Tribune.)  
Baltimore, Aug. 22.—Pledged to each other until death by an agreement such as, in dime novels, is generally supposed to bind highwaymen or bandits of the most desperate kind, Harry J. Porter, of New-York City, and G. C. Richards, of Oneonta, N. Y., arrived in Baltimore on a Baltimore and Ohio freight train last night, and were arrested for trespassing on railroad property.

Both lads are eighteen years old. They came from New-York to ship on a cattle steamer, determined to make a tour of the world. In a diary kept by them the officers found a signed agreement, with a seal of skull and crossbones attached, in which they pledged themselves to stand by each other till death, and to divide equally all moneys they got.

The justice dismissed them, with advice to return home.

## PITTSBURG RACE RIOT.

## Fight Because Waiter Would Not Serve Negro in Restaurant.

(By Telegram to The Tribune.)  
Pittsburg, Aug. 22.—Two hundred people engaged in a desperate race riot late this evening at Luna Park, and as a result a number of persons were injured. Charles Julius Miller, a negro, employed in the Registry Department of the Chicago Postoffice, entered the Café Neapolitan. Miller is here attending the National Convention of the colored Knights of Pythias. Waiters refused to serve him, and Miller, when ordered out by the waiter, abused him. One of the waiters attempted to strike Miller with a chair, and he drew a revolver. A number of shots were fired before the waiter could be taken from him. Friends ran to his assistance and a free-for-all fight followed. Fifteen persons were arrested. Miller, who was seriously injured, and several others had to be sent to hospitals.

## NEW VICEROY OF INDIA CRITICISED.

## Goldwin Smith Says He Must Be More a Ruler than Governor General of Canada.

(By Telegram to The Tribune.)  
Ottawa, Ont., Aug. 22.—There is considerable adverse criticism of the appointment of Canada's last Governor General as Viceroy of India. Professor Goldwin Smith, the eminent litterateur and publicist, to-day expressed his opinion that the British government were wrong to put it for a man to succeed Lord Curzon and selected Lord Minto because of the eulogies he had received while leaving Ottawa. He pointed out, however, that the Governor General is a real ruler, while the Governor General was largely a figurehead. He took a hopeful view of the future of India, however, and did not credit the alarmist reports of unrest.

## USED REVOLVER TO STEAL SHOES.

## Flagman, Armed with Shotgun, Turns Tables on Negro Highwaymen.

(By Telegram to The Tribune.)  
Wilmington, Del., Aug. 22.—Samuel Weber, of No. 187 3d-ave., New-York, and Harry Koroshki, of Chicago, were held up and shot at by two negro highwaymen near here to-day. Koroshki was shot in the cheek, receiving a painful wound.

The men, who were trying to reach Philadelphia from Baltimore, told their story to the crew of a Pennsylvania Railroad gravel train. Isaac David, the flagman, enticed the negroes into the caboose, covered them with a shotgun, and held them until the train reached Wilmington, where the negroes were taken to the Wilmington police station. Their victims also were locked up, charged with trespass.

The only things stolen were Koroshki's shoes.

## FORD, CHRISTIE, CHEVROLET.

Will try for records and the trophies on Cape May Beach, August 25 and 26, in the morning. City meeting of the kind this season. Pennsylvania Railroad offers convenient trains.—Advt.

## TO OFFER PRESIDENT'S PLAN

## Informal Exchanges Pave the Way for a Discussion of the Disputed Points at Portsmouth.

## BOTH SIDES MAKE SOME CONCESSIONS.

## Meetings of the Plenipotentiaries To Be Renewed To-Day—Peace Depends on the Moderation of the Japanese Demands, the Russians Say.

(By The Associated Press.)  
Portsmouth, N. H., Aug. 23, 2 a. m.—It is stated that Baron Komura at the session at 9:30 o'clock this morning has agreed to offer the President's compromise proposition. A high authority believes it impossible that a final rupture can come to-day, no matter what the character of the Emperor's final instructions to M. Witte. "If the negotiations can be prolonged into next week," said he, "so much pressure will be brought to bear upon the Emperor that he will not be able to resist."

Portsmouth, N. H., Aug. 22.—The black clouds which hung so ominously over the future of the peace conference last night have suddenly broken asunder, and to-night a large rift affords some promise again. The old adage that "The darkest hour always comes before the dawn" may have been verified once more.

It would still be far too strong a statement to say that peace is in sight, but that there is ground for hope is unquestionably true. Japan has evinced an entirely unexpected spirit of conciliation, and it is learned this evening that informal exchanges which have occurred since the adjournment of last Friday have paved the way for an extended discussion of the disputed points, have, perhaps, even rendered it feasible for the plenipotentiaries to bargain.

What instructions the Russian envoys have received from St. Petersburg it is impossible to ascertain, but it may be stated on the highest authority that they, too, have suddenly receded from their "unalterable determination" to reject, even in principle, the demand that they defray the expenses of the war, and that in their estimation it is chiefly a question of Japan's moderation which stands in the way of peace.

That proposals or suggestions have passed between the Russian and Japanese envoys that now point to a solution of the deadlock over Articles 5 and 9, concerning the cession of Saghalien and Russia's payment of the cost of the war, is a fact. That Japan, while vigorously protesting her readiness to continue the war, has been really more anxious to end the conflict than has been thus far admitted is equally a fact, though it must be admitted, to the credit of Japanese diplomacy, that for a considerable period the Japanese envoys have refused to commit themselves in any way whatever, while the imperturbable M. Sato has never receded from his original attitude—that of expecting a successful outcome from the negotiations.

Even now, however, it would be rash definitely to predict the success of the negotiations, because to do that with even reasonable certainty would require a knowledge of the attitude of the Mikado and a confidence in the stability of the Czar, which are not, probably, possessed by any newspaper correspondent in Portsmouth. It can only be said, therefore, that a long stride in the direction of peace has been made, and this as the result of direct, though informal, negotiations between the plenipotentiaries themselves.

There was no session of the peace conference to-day, and it was officially announced that this was due to the failure of the secretaries to complete the protocols. It is more probable, however, that the real reason for the delay was to permit of further consultation with Tokio and St. Petersburg. This evening M. Sato declared that the protocols, seven in number, were completed. In reply to a question, he estimated the shortest of these documents at fifteen hundred words and the longest at forty-five hundred, but emphasized the fact that this was merely an estimate.

M. Sato also confidently predicts that the signing of the protocols to-morrow will be followed by an extended discussion of the points at issue. This far no attempt has been made to reach a common understanding regarding Articles 9 and 10, concerning the limitation of Russia's naval strength in the Pacific and the surrender by her of certain interned ships, but these are regarded as comparatively unimportant, for the reason that neither would ever be permitted to become the occasion for disrupting the conference and continuing the war.

Early in the day it became obvious that a change had occurred in the situation, and immediately all sorts of rumors gained circulation. The appearance of Colonel Michael, chief clerk of the State Department, on the scene added to the belief that the President was proving an active factor in the negotiations, and later it was reported that the President's stenographer, Mr. McGrew, was in Portsmouth, had brought a message to Secretary Peirce and had attended a conference between M. Witte, Baron Rosen and the Third Assistant Secretary of State at the navy yard. Still another report was to the effect that M. Saki, private secretary to Baron Kaneko, was in Portsmouth and had been present at the conference.

Later in the day Baron Rosen and M. Witte each emphatically denied that he had conferred with Mr. Peirce at the navy yard and that they had received any message from the President whatever. Mr. Peirce also categorically denied that he knew Mr. McGrew or M. Saki or that he had seen either, and he further asserted that Colonel Michael's visit to Portsmouth pertained solely to State Department business, which had no reference to the peace conference. Colonel Michael came to the Wentworth Hotel at New-Castle and conferred with Mr. Peirce; neither M. Saki nor Mr. McGrew did, though it is believed that Mr. McGrew was in Portsmouth.

On the 10:10 o'clock train from Boston last night there arrived a man who said that his name was "McGaw," and that he had just come from Portsmouth and was going immediately to Oyster Bay. Beyond this he refused to talk, and was very indignant that he should be questioned.

## BACK TO OYSTER BAY.

## "McGaw" Arrives from Portsmouth in a Hurry.

On the 10:10 o'clock train from Boston last night there arrived a man who said that his name was "McGaw," and that he had just come from Portsmouth and was going immediately to Oyster Bay. Beyond this he refused to talk, and was very indignant that he should be questioned.

## CODE TO PORTSMOUTH.

## Chief Clerk of State Department Carries It.

Washington, Aug. 22.—Colonel W. H. Michael, chief clerk of the State Department, left here last night for Portsmouth in response to a telegram and took with him a copy of the State Department code, presumably for the use of Secretary Peirce in communicating with the President. It is probable that Colonel Michael will return to Washington to-morrow or next day.

## M. WITTE GETS CABLE.

Rumor That It Is Czar's Refusal of Terms.

Portsmouth, N. H., Aug. 22.—A long cable message from St. Petersburg, which is believed to be the Russian reply, arrived about 10 o'clock to-night, and M. Witte's secretaries, M. Nabukoff and M. Plancon, immediately began deciphering it.

Considerable excitement was apparent in the annex, where the Russian headquarters are situated. Sheet by sheet the translation was taken to M. Witte's room. The rumor is that it is a refusal, a non possumus, a reiteration of the Russian position that she has given ample proof of her desire for peace in the articles already accepted, and that more she could not yield with dignity and honor.

No confirmation of the rumor that Russia's reply is a negative can be obtained, and it must be accepted with all reserve. The lights in the rooms of M. Witte and Baron Rosen were burning long after midnight.

## THE PRESIDENT'S PLAN.

Russia to Pay Japan by Buying Back Saghalien.

(By The Associated Press.)  
Portsmouth, N. H., Aug. 22.—The Associated Press is now in a position to reveal substantially the suggestion of President Roosevelt for breaking the deadlock in the peace negotiations and rescuing the conference from failure. His solution would ingeniously permit the satisfaction of the Japanese demands for reimbursement for the cost of the war and at the same time enable Russia to face the world with the declaration that she had not ceded a foot of territory or paid a kopeck of war tribute to the victor.

The solution consists in an agreement by Russia to repurchase possession of either all or half of the Island of Saghalien, now in the military occupation of Japan, for a sum, the amount of which, if the two countries cannot agree, shall be decided by some method of arbitration hereafter to be determined. The purchase money, together with the sum Japan would obtain from the cession of the Chinese Eastern Railroad and the maintenance of the Russian prisoners in Japan, would, it is estimated, about equal the amount claimed by Japan as her bill for the cost of the war.

Practically, therefore, the solution offered by the President involves recession by Japan upon Article 3, the cession of Saghalien, and recession by Russia upon Article 9, indemnity. It seems practically certain, though this cannot be affirmed positively, that the President to-day was able to give M. Witte substantial assurance that Japan would be willing to accept such a compromise. This is, apparently, supported by the authoritative Japanese statement to-night in reply to a question as to whether Japan had not decided to make substantial concessions: "It all depends upon Russia."

It was the President's message to M. Witte which caused the sensation of the day. Early in the morning had come the official announcement that the meeting of the conference which was to be held to-day had been postponed until to-morrow at 9:30 o'clock. The public reason assigned was that the protocols for submission at the sitting had not been completed. But a few hours later the true reason leaked out. J. L. McGrew, one of the stenographers attached to the executive offices at Oyster Bay, had arrived with a communication from the President for the Russian plenipotentiaries.

M. Witte and Baron Rosen had left the hotel ostensibly for a ride in an automobile to York Beach, but instead had quietly slipped over to the conference building at the navy yard to receive the message from Mr. Peirce. The most elaborate precautions had been taken to insure secrecy, but the arrival of the messenger leaked out through a "tip" from New-York.

From 10:30 o'clock until 1:10 M. Witte and Baron Rosen remained at the conference building with Mr. Peirce. All those present decline to make any statements regarding what transpired at the navy yard, even refusing to admit that any importance attached to the matter. M. Witte would only admit that he had gone to the building "to send a message," and Baron Rosen and Mr. Peirce absolutely refused to make any statements.

McGrew took the 3:30 o'clock train to Boston.

## NOTHING QUITE EQUALS IT.

The Twentieth Century Limited, the 13-hour train between New-York and Chicago by the New York Central line. Leaves New-York 3:30 p. m., arrives Chicago 3:30 next morning—a night's ride.—Advt.